In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for wireless communication, comprising the steps of:

determining sectors of a cell;

determining a first downlink transmission beam and a second downlink transmission beam in said sectors based on a received user-derived signal, the first downlink transmission beam being substantially uncorrelated with the second downlink transmission beam, the first downlink transmission beam being associated with a portion within a first sector of said spatial domain, the second downlink transmission beam being associated with a portion within a second sector;

diversity encoding a first signal in said first sector to produce a first diversity-encoded signal;

diversity encoding a second signal in said second sector to produce a second diversity-encoded signal;

sending the first diversity-encoded signal over the first downlink transmission beam; and

sending the second diversity-encoded signal over the second downlink transmission beam.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein: the first signal and the second signal are diversity encoded so that an associated decoder error rate is less than a decoder error rate for one diversity-encoded signal.

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3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first sector substantially corresponds to the second sector.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first sector differs from the second sector.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein: the received user-derived signal includes a first component and a second component, the first component of the received user-derived signal being received on a first antenna array, the second component of the received user-derived signal being received on a second antenna array, the first antenna array differs from the second antenna array.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the received user-derived signal includes a first component and a second component, the first component of the received user-derived signal being received on a first antenna array, the second component of the received user-derived signal being received on a second antenna array, the first antenna array substantially corresponds to the second antenna array.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first polarization, the second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second polarization substantially orthogonal to the first polarization.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein:the first sector substantially corresponds to the second sector, and the portion within the first sector substantially corresponds to the portion within the second sector.

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9. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein:

the portion within the first sector differs from the portion within the second sector.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the portion within the first sector overlaps, at least partially, with the portion within the second sector.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first downlink transmission beam is sent from a first antenna array, and the second downlink transmission beam is sent from a second antenna array.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first downlink transmission beam is sent during a first time period, and the second downlink transmission beam is sent during a second time period that overlaps, at least partially, with the first time period.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first frequency range, the second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second frequency range at least a portion of which is different from the first frequency range.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first uplink multipath from a plurality of uplink multipaths associated with a first user, the second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second uplink multipath from the plurality of uplink multipaths, the first uplink multipath and the second uplink multipath being no less optimal than the remaining uplink multipaths from the plurality of uplink multipaths.

15. (previously presented) The method claim 1, wherein the diversity encoding further includes:multiplexing a first pilot signal and an information signal to produce a first multiplexed signal; spreading and scrambling the first multiplexed signal to produce a first spread/scrambled signal; and modifying the first spread/scrambled signal based on a first feedback signal.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the diversity encoding further includes:

multiplexing a second pilot signal and the information signal to produce a second multiplexed signal;

spreading and scrambling the second multiplexed signal to produce a second spread/scrambled signal; and

modifying the second spread/scrambled signal based on a second feedback signal.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining includes:

identifying a first multipath component and a second multipath component of the received user-derived signal for a first user, the first multipath component and the second multipath component being no less optimal than remaining multipath components of the received user-derived signal for the first user;

identifying a first angular arrival range and a second angular arrival range based on the first multipath component and the second multipath component, respectively; and

defining the first downlink transmission beam and the second downlink transmission beam based on the first angular arrival range and the second angular arrival range.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first signal and the second signal are diversity encoded based on the received user-derived signal.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first signal and the second signal are diversity encoded based on at least one characteristic of the received user-derived signal from the group of: a signal quality, a data rate, a signal strength, and a signal cross-correlation property.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the received user-derived signal includes a first component and a second component, the first component of the received user-derived signal being associated with its own multipath, the second component of the received user-derived signal being associated with its own multipath;

the diversity encoding the first signal includes:

determining a complex gain associated with the first diversity signal based on feedback information associated with the first component of the received user-derived signal; and

the diversity encoding the second signal includes:

determining a complex gain associated with the second diversity signal based on feedback information associated with the second component of the received user-derived signal.

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21. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first diversity-encoded signal is associated with its own diversity code, the second diversity-encoded signal is associated with its own diversity code that is separable from the diversity code associated with the first diversity-encoded signal.

22. (currently amended) A method for wireless communication for a first user, comprising: the steps of

determining a cell having a plurality of sectors;

receiving a first diversity-encoded signal from a first downlink transmission beam from one of said sectors; and

receiving a second diversity-encoded signal from a second downlink transmission beam from one of said sectors, the first downlink transmission beam being substantially uncorrelated with the second downlink transmission beam, the first downlink transmission beam being associated with a portion of a first sector of said plurality of sectors, the second downlink transmission beam being associated with a portion of a second sector of said plurality of sectors.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

sending a user-derived signal,

the portion within the first sector being based on a first component of a received user-derived signal, the first component of the received user-derived signal being associated with a first multipath, and

the portion within the second sector being based on a second component of the received user-derived signal, the second component of the received user-derived signal being associated with a second multipath.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein:

the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first polarization, the second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second polarization substantially orthogonal to the first polarization.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein:

the first sector substantially corresponds to the second sector, and

the portion within the first sector substantially corresponds to the portion within the second sector.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein:

the portion within the first sector differs from the portion within the second sector.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein:

the portion within the first sector overlaps, at least partially, with the portion within the second sector.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein:

the first downlink transmission beam is sent from a first antenna array, and

the second downlink transmission beam is sent from a second antenna array.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein:

the first downlink transmission beam is sent during a first time period, and the

second downlink transmission beam is sent during a second time period that overlaps, at

least partially, with the first time period.

30. (previously presented)   The method of claim 22, wherein:

the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first frequency range, the

second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second frequency range at least a

portion of which is different from the first frequency range.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein:

the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first uplink multipath

from a plurality of uplink multipaths associated with the first user, the second downlink

transmission beam is associated with a second uplink multipath from the plurality of

uplink multipaths, the first uplink multipath and the second uplink multipath being no less

optimal than the remaining uplink multipaths from the plurality of uplink multipaths.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the first diversity-

encoded signal and the second diversity-encoded signal have been diversity encoded based

on a previous user-derived signal from the first user.

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33. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the first diversity-encoded signal and the second diversity-encoded signal have been diversity encoded based on at least one characteristic of a previous user-derived signal from the group of: a signal quality, a data rate, a signal strength, and a signal cross-correlation property.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

sending an uplink signal, a first component of the uplink signal being associated with its own multipath, a second component of the uplink signal being associated with its own multipath;

the first diversity-encoded signal having its own complex gain based on feedback information associated with the first component of the uplink signal; and

the second diversity-encoded signal having its own complex gain based on feedback information associated with the second component of the uplink signal.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the first diversity-encoded signal is associated with its own diversity code, the second diversity-encoded signal is associated with its own diversity code that is separable from the diversity code associated with the first diversity-encoded signal.

36. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a searcher, ~~the searcher being~~ configured to identify a received user-derived signal <u>within a cell having plural sectors</u>;

a beam controller coupled to the searcher;

a first transmit beam switch coupled to the beam controller;

a second transmit beam switch coupled to the beam controller;

a diversity coder coupled to the first transmit beam switch and the second transmit beam switch, the diversity coder configured to send a first diversity encoded signal to the first transmit beam switch based on the received user-derived signal and to send a second diversity encoded signal to the second transmit beam switch based on the received user-derived signal; and

an antenna array coupled to the first transmit beam switch and the second transmit beam switch, the antenna array configured to define a first downlink transmission beam and a second downlink transmission beam, the first downlink transmission beam being associated with a portion within a first sector, the second downlink transmission beam being associated with a portion within a second sector, the first downlink transmission beam being substantially uncorrelated to the second downlink transmission beam, the first downlink transmission beam being associated with the first diversity-encoded signal, the second downlink transmission beam being associated with the second diversity-encoded signal.

37. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the first sector substantially corresponds to the second sector.

38. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the first sector differs from the second sector.

39. (previously presented)   The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the diversity coder includes:

a first multiplexer configured to receive a first pilot signal and an information signal to produce a multiplexed signal;

a first spread/scramble module coupled to the first multiplexer, the first spread/scramble module configured to receive the multiplexed signal associated with the first multiplexer, the first spread/scramble module configured to produce a spread/scrambled signal; and

a first complex-gain multiplier coupled to the first spread/scramble module, the first complex-gain multiplier configured to receive the spread/scrambled signal associated with the first spread/scramble module and a first feedback signal.

40. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the diversity coder further includes:

a second multiplexer configured to receive a second pilot signal and the information signal to produce a multiplexed signal;

a second spread/scramble module coupled to the second mutliplexer, the second spread/scramble module configured to receive the multiplexed signal associated with the second multiplexer, the second spread/scramble module configured to produce a spread/scrambled signal; and

a second complex-gain multiplier coupled to the second spread/scramble module, the second complex-gain multiplier configured to receive the spread/scrambled signal associated with the second spread/scramble module and a second feedback signal.

41. (previously presented)   The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the diversity coder further includes:

a space-time coder configured to receive an information signal and configured to send a first space-time coded signal and a second space-time coded signal, the first space-time coded signal being orthogonal to the second space-time coded signal;

a first spread/scramble module configured to receive the information signal and configured to send a spread/scrambled signal; and

a second spread/scramble module configured to receive the space-time coded signal and configured to send a spread/scrambled signal.

42. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein:

the searcher is configured to receive the received user-derived signal including a first component and a second component,

the antenna array includes a first portion and a second portion, the first component of the received user-derived signal being received from a first user-derived reception beam on the first portion of the antenna array, the second component of the received user-derived signal being received from a second user-derived reception beam on the second portion of the antenna array, the first user-derived reception beam differs from the second user-derived reception beam, the first portion of the antenna array differs from the second portion of the antenna array.

43. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein:

the searcher is configured to receive the received user-derived signal including a first component and a second component,

the antenna array includes a first portion and a second portion, the first component of the received user-derived signal being received from a first user-derived reception beam on the first portion of the antenna array, the second component of the received user-derived signal being received from a second user-derived reception beam on the second portion of the antenna array, the first user-derived reception beam substantially corresponds to the second user-derived reception beam, the first portion of the antenna array substantially corresponds to the second portion of the antenna array.

44. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein:

the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first polarization, the second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second polarization substantially orthogonal to the first polarization.

45. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the first sector substantially corresponds to the second sector, and the portion within the first sector substantially corresponds to the portion within the second sector.

46. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the portion within the sector associated with the first downlink transmission beam differs from the portion within the sector associated with second downlink transmission beam.

47. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36,wherein:the portion within the sector associated with the first downlink transmission beam overlaps, at least

partially, with the portion within the sector associated with second downlink transmission beam.

48. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the antenna array includes a first portion and a second portion, the first downlink transmission beam is sent from the first portion of the antenna array, and the second downlink transmission beam is sent from the second portion of the antenna array.

49. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the first downlink transmission beam is sent during a first time period, and the second downlink transmission beam is sent during a second time period that overlaps, at least partially, with the first time period

50. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first frequency range, the second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second frequency range at least a portion of which is different from the first frequency range.

51. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the first downlink transmission beam is associated with a first uplink multipath from a plurality of uplink multipaths associated with a first user, the second downlink transmission beam is associated with a second uplink multipath from the plurality of uplink multipaths, the first uplink multipath and the second uplink multipath being no less optimal than the remaining uplink multipaths from the plurality of uplink multipaths.

52. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36,wherein:the searcher is configured to identify a first multipath component and a second multipath component of the received user-derived signal for a first user, the first multipath component and the second multipath component being no less optimal than remaining multipath components of the received user-derived signal for the first user; and the beam controller being configured to define the first downlink transmission beam and the second downlink transmission beam based on the first angular arrival range and the second angular arrival range.

53. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the diversity coder is configured to encode a first signal and a second signal based on a received user-derived signal to produce the first diversity-encoded signal and the second diversity-encoded signal..

54. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the diversity coder is configured to encode a first signal and a second signal based on at least one characteristic of the received user-derived signal from the group of: a signal quality, a data rate, a signal strength and a signal cross-correlation property, to produce the first diversity-encoded signal and the second diversity-encoded signal.

55. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the searcher is configured to receive the received user-derived signal, the received user-derived signal includes a first component and a second component, the first component of the received user-derived signal is associated with its own multipath, the second component of the

received user-derived signal being associated with its own multipath; the diversity coder is configured to determine a complex gain associated with the first diversity signal based on feedback information associated with the first component of the received user-derived signal; and determine a complex gain associated with the second diversity signal based on feedback information associated with the second component of the received user derived signal.

56. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the first diversity-encoded signal is associated with its own diversity code, the second diversity-encoded signal is associated with its own diversity code that is separable from the diversity code associated with the first diversity encoded signal.